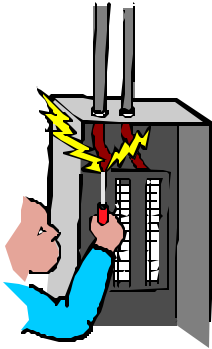


# The Missouri Public Service Commission

*Informed Consumers, Quality Utility Services, and a Dedicated Organization for Missourians in the 21st Century*

## BE SAFE AROUND ELECTRICITY



*Energy provided by electric utilities has become an essential part of our everyday lives. It is important to remember that the same power used to make life easier can be dangerous -- even deadly.*

*Each year about 1,000 people die from electrical related accidents. In addition, many more are injured. Electricity always tries to travel to ground so it can complete a circuit. If a person is standing on the ground and comes in contact with a power source, a circuit will be completed. **That is why it is important to be safe around electricity.***

*Many power lines are not insulated. Those that do have black or gray material covering them can still be very dangerous.*

### **Following These Guidelines Could Prevent Serious Injuries**

- Notice where power lines are around your home and avoid going near them.
- Contact your utility about trees and shrubs that may be planted around power lines.
- Contact your local utility company if you notice anything out of the ordinary that may be a potential hazard.
- Do-it-yourself utility projects can be dangerous. If you have a problem or project that involves power lines, notify the appropriate utility company. If the matter is not resolved by your utility company, and it involves utility service outside the home, contact the Missouri Public Service Commission for assistance.
- If you work outdoors around power lines you should be especially cautious. For example, farmers and house painters should be careful not to let irrigation pipes or metal ladders come in contact with overhead lines.
- If you plan to dig, call toll free at **1-800-DIG-RITE**. This is a free service to help prevent accidents related to buried utility lines and facilities. Missouri law requires any person doing excavation to notify all underground facility owners that may be affected by the work.

### **Tips for Children**

- Don't play around power lines, boxes or transformers.
- Stay away from downed power lines.
- Don't climb trees that are near power lines.

### **For more information**



Created in 1913, the Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC) regulates over 1,000 investor-owned telecommunications, water and sewer, natural gas, electric and steam utilities. The PSC works to ensure that Missouri citizens receive safe, reliable and reasonably priced utility services. If you have an inquiry, billing question or service-related problem that your utility provider cannot answer, please call the PSC at **1-800-392-4211** or visit our website at **[www.psc.mo.gov](http://www.psc.mo.gov)**

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